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Docket No.: A-29

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

By:  Date: June 25, 2001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Lutz Richter et al.
Appl. No. : 09/852,348
Filed : May 9, 2001
Title : Gathering Stapler with Separate Drives and Method of Operating the Gathering Stapler
Art Unit :

LETTER

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks,
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

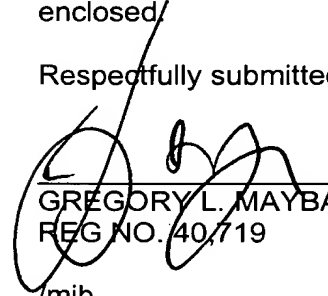
The above-mentioned new patent application was filed on May 9, 2001 without a signed oath or declaration, under the provision of 37 C.F.R. 1.53(f).

In accordance with the above-mentioned rule, enclosed herewith is the original signed declaration.

The undersigned hereby states that the application filed in the Patent and Trademark Office is the application which the inventor(s) executed by signing the declaration. MPEP 601.01(a).

The fee required for the late filing of an oath or declaration in the amount of \$130.00 is also enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,


GREGORY L. MAYBACK
REG NO. 40,719

/mjb

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